



**mainroads**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# Technical Note - Decorative Pavement Markings

## Network Operations Directorate



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## **Technical Note Decorative Pavement Markings**

This document is owned and authorised by the Manager Traffic Management Services, Network Operations. Please submit all comments and requests to the Manager Traffic Management Services.

### **Authorisation**

As Manager Traffic Management Services of Network Operations I authorise the issue and use of this Technical Note – Decorative Pavement Markings.

Signed by MTMS on 22 March 2019 refer to D19#121852

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive name, positioned above a horizontal line.

MANAGER TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Date:

22/3/2019

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# Document Control

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# Amendments

Revision Number	Revision Date	Description of Key Changes	Section / Page No.
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## 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on the potential applications of Decorative Pavement Markings on local roads.

## 2 GENERAL

Decorative pavement markings consist of differently coloured road paving materials applied to the surface of the road or footpath to simulate a coloured pavement. These have no legal status and are not intended to be used as a Traffic Management Tool, their sole intent is to be used as an aesthetic treatment.

Please note that surface treatments used to channelise traffic (e.g. bus lanes, medians, emergency stopping lanes, cycle or bus lanes, truck aprons, etc) should not be considered as decorative pavement markings.

## 3 CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration needs to be given to the design and the environment in which the treatment is being utilised to ensure that it does not confuse road users, suggest a change of priority or distract road users from existing traffic control devices. Any treatment utilised should not adversely affect the Skid Resistance, Surface Texture of the road or retro-reflectivity of any existing or proposed pavement markings.

Decorative pavement markings can be subject to erosion, fading or discoloration particularly in heavily trafficked locations after the first 6 to 12 months from application. The intended impact can be significantly reduced in wet weather and poor lighting situations. Safety risk assessments shall be carried out when decorative pavement markings are to be implemented.

The choice of colour should be complimentary with the environment and should not have unintentional adverse impact, such as to safety or to the surrounding landscape. A balance between the benefits and aesthetics should be considered. Consultation may be desirable prior to implementation to ensure that relevant stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on the proposals. A road safety audit before implementation should be considered.

Consideration should also be given to the noise characteristics of the coloured surfaces, bearing in mind their use near residential properties. When selecting the most appropriate material for a particular location, durability, colour retention, skid resistance, adhesion to existing surface, ride quality, maintenance requirements and cost should be considered.

## 4 APPLICATION

### Recommended uses:

- On Local roads with minimal existing pavement marking
- To promote a special purpose area i.e. revitalisation of activity centres
- To provide an effective contrast with the adjacent surface
- To replicate a recognisable colour scheme unique to the local area.
- To highlight conflict areas
- Entry statement / Threshold treatment

### Do not use:

- On state roads
- On any road with a speed limit greater than 50 km/h
- To replicate or interfere with any traffic control device that could create a right-of-way issue e.g. roundabouts, zebra crossings, rumble strips, bus lanes, cycle lanes, etc
- Between traffic control device e.g. zebra crossings, crosswalk lines
- Colours that degrade the contrast of RRPM's, white and yellow lines that might be mistaken by road users as a traffic control device or constitute a distraction
- In close proximity to Traffic Signals
- To channelise traffic
- To produce text, symbols or numbers
- To simulate a 3D object
- Retroreflective coloured materials

